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Canine Golden Rules of Training

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- **Build a bond** with your dog. Enjoy each other. Be the Alpha leader in your pack.
- **Be consistent** - No mixed messages. Always react the same to the dog's behavior. Always! Don't overuse words – use command ONCE.
- **Don't nag** - If you continually nag at them, they will grow to understand that they should react on the 4th or 5th nag. Say your command ONCE.
- **Reward** good behavior always. Praise them passively or actively. Use voice, toys or



hand. It is extremely important for them to associate properly. If rewarding for an obedience action expected, NEVER reward with a treat of food. This is the oldest, most antiquated method, and will create a bond with **your dog and its food**, and this is by far the slowest method of building a personal bond with your furry friend. Try a praise reward instead, it will amaze you.

- **Interrupt** only **PRESENT** bad behavior.

Remember that your dog has a short memory. Interrupt bad behavior within 2-3 seconds verbally and with leash. Never strike or hit your dog, that's no way to build a bond. Practice the 5:1 rule.

- **Know your equipment** - Never OVER correct your dog's behavior, he will grow afraid. Remember the 5:1 rule.

- **Don't loose your temper** - It's not their

fault you didn't communicate properly. Remember that your emotions travel down the leash.

- **Anticipate** - If you see your dog or puppy smelling or sniffing intensely, it's time to rush him outside. Learn to read your dog. Practice your daily homework lessons religiously. **You WILL build a bond.**
- **Fun – fun – fun** - Need to start and finish all training sessions with play and fun. *Happy – happy – happy*. If you have fun, they'll have fun; if they have fun, you'll have fun. Are we making the connection?
- **5:1 Rule** - Quietly praise your dog 5 times minimum, for every single **interruption** that you apply.